

## LABOR LEADER PROFILE: MICHAEL B. POWERS, PRESIDENT, NYSCOPBA

A veteran correctional officer, Michael B. Powers was elected NYSCOPBA President in 2014 and re-elected in 2017. The union represents 30,000 employees and retirees of the Department of Corrections and Community Supervision.

As President, Powers works to secure fair compensation with good benefits for NYSCOPBA members, who include security hospital treatment assistants and safety and security officers in State mental health and disability facilities, and security screening technicians, as well as officers charged with the care, custody and control of inmates in the prison system. Powers seeks to educate the public about the challenges corrections officers face, such as overcrowding, reclassification of inmates, drugs and gang violence, and has testified before the State Legislature about measures to improve security, citing the rising

assault rate in State facilities. He also serves on the Comptroller's Advisory Council for the New York State & Local Retirement System.



In addition, Michael Powers has been deeply involved in the life of his community. He was elected to the City Council in his hometown of Ogdensburg in 2008, serving two terms, and was appointed to fill a vacancy in the Council last year, winning re-election to another full term in November 2019. He is a staunch supporter of the Boys & Girls Clubs.

A career law enforcement professional, Michael Powers speaks up for public servants whose contributions are often overlooked, opposing negative stereotypes and championing the brave, hard-working members of NYSCOPBA.